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## BEFORE THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

#### OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

In re Mortgage Loan Originator License Application of:

FAITHE AUNGUANETTE ROGERS, NMLS ID No. 1965105,

Applicant.

Docket No. 2020-16-71

NOTICE OF INTENT AND OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

The Idaho Department of Finance, Consumer Finance Bureau (Department), pursuant to the Idaho Residential Mortgage Practices Act, Idaho Code § 26-31-101 *et seq.* (the Act), and in particular §§ 26-31-306(1)(d) and (h) and 26-31-313(1)(a) and (b) of the Act, hereby issues this Notice of Intent and Opportunity to Request a Hearing (Notice). The Department intends to seek an order of denying the mortgage loan originator license application submitted by FAITHE AUNGUANETTE ROGERS (the Applicant) to the Department.

Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-305(6), the Applicant has the right to a hearing on the question of her qualifications, but to do so she must make a written request for a hearing within fifteen (15) days after the date of mailing of this Notice. If the written request is not timely made, the Department staff intends to ask the Director to issue an Order of Denial of Mortgage Loan Originator License Application. Alternatively, the Applicant may withdraw the application prior to the expiration of the time within which to request a hearing and thereby prevent an order of denial from being entered.

The Notice is based on the following:

### MATTERS ASSERTED

- 1. The Applicant, a resident of the state of California, holds NMLS number 1965105 and applied for an Idaho Mortgage Loan Originator (MLO) license by filing an individual Form MU4 application through the online Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry (NMLSR or NMLS). This application was attested to by the Applicant on September 17, 2020 and submitted on the Applicant's behalf by Gino Tomasino of American Advisors Group on the September 18, 2020. The Applicant has also used the name Faithe Aunguanette Andrews.
- 2. The application Form MU4 seeks information about an individual applicant's qualifications to be licensed as a mortgage loan originator. A section of the application is entitled "Disclosure Questions" and consists of a series of questions that inquire into an applicant's history regarding financial, criminal, civil, judicial and regulatory matters.
- 3. Pertinent to the Applicant's qualifications is question (D): "Do you have any unsatisfied judgments or liens against you?" The applicant responded with a "no" to this disclosure question.

- 4. Consistent with normal practice, a Department examiner conducted an assessment of the Applicant using various sources of public information to determine if the Applicant demonstrates sufficient financial responsibility, character, and general fitness in order to be licensed as a mortgage loan originator.<sup>1</sup>
- 5. The examiner obtained a public record background information report through LexisNexis, which showed that the Applicant has an outstanding Georgia tax lien against her. Following this, the examiner obtained a copy of the Georgia Department of Revenue, State Tax Execution, Execution Number REV 10138419, which was issued against the Applicant on December 30, 2017, in the total amount of \$529.11 (consisting of interest and penalty) and filed as a lien in the Newton County Georgia Superior Court on January 1, 2018, Document No. L2018000901, Record No. BK:215 PG:347-347. This execution includes the following notations: "Renewed per HB 337," "Original Date of Filing 06-Apr-2016," and "Book and Page: B195 P255."
- 6. After determining that this was not the original execution, the examiner obtained a copy of that as well. The original execution shows that it was issued on August 17, 2010, in the total amount of \$1,293.92 (consisting of principal, interest, penalty, collection fee, and costs) and filed as a lien in the Newton County Georgia Superior Court on November 18, 2010, as Document No. 005220 (BK:140 PG:631-631). The original execution contains a second court filing stamp, with a date stamp of April 6, 2016, Document No. 001316 (BK:195 PG:255-255).
- 7. The Department has no evidence indicating that the Georgia tax lien described above has been satisfied and released.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Conducted pursuant to Part 3 of the Act titled "The Idaho Secure and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act" (Idaho S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act), Idaho Code § 26-31-306.

- 8. The Applicant's "no" answer to disclosure question (D) constitutes a material misrepresentation and her failure to provide details of the tax lien described above constitutes a material omission.
- 9. In addition to the above, there may be additional concerns regarding the Applicant's financial responsibility that would serve as a separate basis to deny the license application.

## **LEGAL CONCLUSIONS**

- 10. Paragraphs 1 through 9 above are fully incorporated herein by this reference.
- 11. Idaho Code § 26-31-304 provides that an individual shall not engage in the business of a mortgage loan originator without first obtaining, and maintaining annually, a license.
- 12. Idaho Code § 26-31-305(1) provides that an applicant for a mortgage loan originator license must apply through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry (NMLSR), in a form required by the Director of the Idaho Department of Finance (Director).
- 13. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(h), before an application for license can be approved, an applicant must provide all information on the application as required per Idaho Code § 26-31-305. Idaho Code § 26-31-305(10) further provides that an applicant shall make complete disclosure of all information as set forth in the application.
- 14. Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(d) provides that the Director shall not issue a mortgage loan originator license under the Act unless the Director makes a finding that an applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character and general fitness sufficient to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act.

- 15. Pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-313(1)(b), the Director may deny a license if an applicant withholds information or makes a material misstatement in an application for a license.
- 16. The Applicant made a material misstatement of fact in her application, which is grounds to deny her application for licensure. She indicated that she did not have any outstanding liens and failed to disclose the existence of the State of Georgia tax lien. The incorrect answer and the failure to disclose this tax lien prohibit the Director from issuing a license to the Applicant pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(h).
- 17. The Department intends to present this Notice as a basis for the Director to find it appropriate to deny the Applicant's application because the Applicant's misrepresentation and failure to disclose on the Form MU4 the Georgia tax lien described above demonstrate that the Applicant lacks the appropriate character and fitness sufficient to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Act. Therefore the Director cannot make the requisite findings under Idaho Code § 26-31-306(1)(d), and it is appropriate to deny the Applicant's request for an Idaho mortgage loan originator license, pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-313(1).

# NOTICE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

18. The Applicant is HEREBY NOTIFIED that the foregoing Notice will result in the Department presenting and requesting a final order of the Director denying the license application, unless the Applicant timely submits a request for hearing pursuant to Idaho Code § 26-31-305(6)(a). Such request for a hearing must be in writing and submitted to the Department within fifteen (15) days after the service of this Notice. A copy of the request for contested case

and hearing shall be served on Department, Consumer Finance Bureau Chief, at the following address:

Erin Van Engelen
Deputy Director
Idaho Department of Finance
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0031

A copy of the request for contested case and hearing shall also be served on the Department's counsel in this matter:

Thomas A. Donovan
Deputy Attorney General
Idaho Department of Finance
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0031

Alternatively, the Applicant may email the request for hearing to: CFLegal@finance.idaho.gov.

- 19. If the Applicant timely requests a hearing, the Director of the Department, or a Hearing Officer acting on the Director's behalf, will notify the Applicant of the date, time and place of the hearing, as well as the name and contact information of the presiding officer.
- 20. Any hearing and subsequent proceedings in this matter will be conducted in accordance with the Idaho Administrative Procedure Act, Idaho Code § 67-5201 et seq. and the Idaho Rules of Administrative Procedure (IDAPA 04.11.01).
- 21. Alternatively, the Applicant can withdraw her application submitted on September 18, 2020. If the Applicant withdraws the application before the deadline to submit a request for a hearing, the Department will not seek to have the Director issue a final order denying the mortgage loan originator license application. The Applicant can then submit a new complete application, which will be reviewed by the Department.

DATED this 4th day of January 2021.

STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Erin Van Engelen, Consumer Finance Bureau Chief

DATED this 4th day of January 2021.

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL

/s/ Thomas A. Donovan
Thomas A. Donovan, Deputy Attorney General

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 4th day of January 2021, I caused a true and correct fully-executed copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF INTENT AND OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING to be served on the following by the designated means:

Faithe Rogers [x] U.S. mail, postage prepaid
255 N Anaheim Blvd #321 [x] certified mail
Anaheim, CA 92805 [x] email: faithe279@gmail.com

/s/ Stephanie Sze
Stephanie Sze
Paralegal